

October 2004

## 2005 White House Conference on Aging Annotated Agenda\*

### Planning along the Lifespan

Economic Incentives to Increase Retirement Savings

- Individual savings; employer based pension program

Social Security Programs Now and for the Future

- Solvency, optimal policy mix

Protection of Financial Assets

- Long term care expenses, insurance and options
- Financial fraud, abuse, exploitation

Financial Literacy throughout the Life Cycle

### The Workplace of the Future

Opportunities for Older Workers

Work Incentives/Disincentives

Employer incentives: training, retraining, retaining

Use of Technology

Ageism/Age Discrimination

### Our Community

Coordinated social and health services that give the elderly the maximum opportunity to age in place

- “One-stop shops” including care navigators, e.g., case manager, to help inform people about the various support systems elements available to them. Also to include health, legal, financial and protective services. One example: Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Configuration of Senior Centers to appeal to the next generation of senior citizens
- Home and community-based care following hospital stays
- Sharing client information across multiple management systems
- Alcoholism, substance abuse, depression and medication management
- Shortage of paid workers for elderly services

- Coordination between health and aging networks
  - Learning about and making use of best practices (U.S., international)
  - Alternative modes of transportation
  - Accommodation of the differences between the Baby Boomer aging population and previous generations of the elderly
- Planning and developing the built environment (e.g., homes, neighborhoods, roadways) to optimally accommodating for the elderly
- Housing affordability and availability
  - Residential design, including home modification relating to safety and convenience
- Promote support for both family and non-family caregivers that enables adequate quality and supply of services
- Caregiver support: training, respite, information, referral, needs assessment and financial support for family caregivers. Training and financial support for paid caregivers

### Health and Long Term Living

#### Access to Affordable, High Quality Services

- National long-term care policy
- Connection of evidence-based research and comparative-effectiveness studies with the delivery of health care services
- Strategies to align payment policies with the continuum of care necessary for the aging, with appropriate emphasis on chronic care and access to geriatric care

#### Healthy Lifestyles, Prevention, and Disease Management

- Strategies for individual healthy behaviors
- “Prevention:” a primary focus
- Disease management programs
- Public education about risk factors for chronic conditions

#### Delivery of Quality Care by Caregivers

- Education of providers about prevention, mental health issues impacting older adults, effective disease management strategies, and coordination of care strategies
- Support of caregivers
- Incentives to encourage family members to care for their aging relatives
- Appropriate end-of-life care in all settings
- Incentives to ensure a reliable workforce exists to care for an aging society

- Options to provide maximum independence and non-institutional care for individuals with complex, chronic, disabling disease

#### Use of Information to Improve the Delivery, Administration, and Quality of Health Care Services

- Available resources for aging consumers and their families to make informed health care decisions
- Medical research that focuses on healthy aging, medical intervention, healthy lifestyles and public health
- Use of health information technology to improve delivery and administration of care

#### Affordable, defined health benefits through Medicare, Medicaid, and other Federal and State health care programs

- Adequate access to state and federal health care programs

### Social Engagement

#### Integration of the elderly with the non-elderly community

- Strategies for changing attitudes toward aging
- Increasing opportunities for volunteerism and other forms of civic engagement
- Promoting expanded opportunities for companionship to reduce isolation and loneliness
- Exploring the roles of religious institutions
- Intergenerational: (a) educating younger people regarding social security policy and, (b) seniors who tutor young people regarding the workplace

#### Effective individual adaptation to the conditions of aging

- Increasing physical activity among the elderly
- Continuing higher education for the older learner
- Computer training for entertainment, sociability
- Keeping older drivers on the road safely
- Planning for long-term living, e.g., retirement, housing, long-term care insurance and end-of-life

### Marketplace

Promoting new products, technology and new ways of marketing that will be helpful /useful to the older consumer. Examples:

pharmaceuticals, medical devices and rehabilitation; financial, insurance and legal; safety; consumer electronics and telecommunications: creative products to support independence

Determine how best to develop and disseminate assistive devices

Determining how to address the shortage of paid workers for elderly services (service industry)

- \* Issue development should include consideration of differences among the following variables: socio-economic, rural/urban, minority, cultural, linguistic competencies/literacy, and age cohort (e.g., 55-65, 65-75, 75-85, 85+). It should also include consideration of strategies for changing attitudes toward aging. Research intending to increase the ability to cope with the conditions of aging should be identified.